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Patent
13010-02USA

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 3-4 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Please amend claims 1, 5-7, 10-11, and 13 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A device for collecting biological samples comprising:
 - (i) at least one collection protrusion comprising at least one tip; and
 - (ii) at least one pad for contacting the tip, wherein the pad comprises chemical preservatives or enzyme inhibitors; and
 - (iii) at least one cap, which is capable of sealingly enclosing the device.
2. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the tip is a wick, spoon, pick, or swab.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently amended) The device according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the cap is connected to the device.
6. (Currently amended) The device according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the cap is detached from the device.
7. (Currently amended) The device according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the cap slidably encloses the device.
8. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the device is made of plastic.

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9. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein the sample comprises nucleic acid.
10. (Currently amended) ~~Instructions comprising a method of collecting samples using the~~ The device according to claim 1, further comprising material with instructions on using the device.
11. (Currently amended) The ~~instructions~~ device according to claim 10, wherein the instructions are in written form.
12. (Original) The device according to claim 1, wherein at least one collection protrusion is foldable or removable.
13. (Currently amended) A device for collecting biological samples comprising:
(i) at least one collection protrusion comprising at least one tip;
(ii) at least one pad for contacting the tip; and
(iii) a storage area for collecting liquid and/or solid sample, wherein inside of the liquid storage area is coated with a chemical preservative or enzyme inhibitor.
14. (Canceled)
15. (Original) The device according to claim 13, wherein the liquid storage area is fitted with a syringe.
16. (Original) The device according to claim 13, wherein the syringe is fitted with a unidirectional piston.
17. (Original) The device according to claim 13, wherein the liquid storage area is fitted with tubing.

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18. (Original) The device according to claim 17, wherein the tubing is capillary tube.
19. (Original) The device according to claim 13, comprising an area for gathering a solid sample.
20. (Original) The device according to claim 19, wherein the solid sample collection area comprises a lid.
21. (Original) The device according to claim 13, wherein at least one collection protrusion is foldable or removable.